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ECONOMIC SITUATION IN POLAND IN APRIL 1949

## Coal Industry

In connection with the reorganization of the chief economic authorities, the Council of Ministers' Order of 22 April was published defining the jurisdiction of the Minister of Mining and Power. The following industries come under this ministry: coal, peat, salt, petroleum, gas, and electric power, also the administration of mines and geological services.

The following operations come under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Mining and Power: economic planning and investment policies, management of the activities of the enterprises involved, supervision of technical equipment, arbitration in matters of property of the enterprises, organization of scientific research, and matters of employment in the areas under his jurisdiction.

In the extraction of black coal, the industry completed the plan in April 100 percent, extracting 5,934,000 tons in 25 work days. In March 1949, 6,401,000 tons were extracted in 27 work days.

Production of Important Items of the Coal Industry  
(in 1,000 tons)

<u>Items</u>	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>Apr 49 Plan in \$</u>
Black coal	6,401	5,934	101
Brown coal	391	556	87
Briquets (black coal)	61	51	102
Coke	295	433	107

April production was less than that of March due to fewer work days in April and a smaller monthly production of the following associations:

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Katowice 98.4 percent, Chorzow 92.0 percent, and Dolny Slask 89.6 percent. In April, productivity per man-day increased to an average of 1,273 kilograms per day, an increase of 25 kilograms per day or 2 percent over March.

Coal loadings in the mines reached a total of 4,547,000 tons as compared to the planned output of 4,396,000 tons or 103.4 percent of the plan. The highest production was achieved by the Rybnik, Jaworzyna-Mikolow, and Bytom associations.

The table below gives extraction and percent of plan achieved by the individual associations.

**Extraction of Black Coal**  
(in 1,000 tons)

<u>Association</u>	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>Apr 49 Plan in %</u>
Rybnik	635	591	105.6
Jaworzyna-Mikolow	620	585	103.7
Dabrowa	757	719	103.4
Gliwice	729	675	101.5
Rudy	795	739	100.7
Zabrze	615	568	100.1
Bytom	623	584	100.0
Katowice	675	618	98.4
Chorzow	683	584	92.0
Dolny Slask	269	271	89.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,401</b>	<b>5,934</b>	<b>101.1</b>

The greatest productivity per man-day was achieved by the associations of Katowice, 1,429 kilograms, and Chorzow, 1,412 kilograms.

At the production meeting of the Chief Board of the Miners' Trade Association, a pledge was made to extract a total of 74 million tons of coal, to achieve the yearly plan by 22 December 1949, to extract an additional 1,000,000 tons of coal by the end of the year, and to save about 9 billion slotys.

**Petroleum Industry**

In April the petroleum industry achieved the monthly production plan as follows: 107 percent for petroleum extraction, 110 percent for production of crude gasoline, 120 percent for solid lubricants, and over 150 percent for cylinder oils and other refinery products.

**Percent of Production Plan Achieved for Important Products of the Petroleum Industry**

<u>Important Products</u>	<u>Mar 49 (in %)</u>	<u>Apr 49 (in %)</u>
Petroleum	107	107
Natural gas	93	81
Crude gasoline	123	110
Gasoline	104	92
Cylinder oils	118	79
Other refinery products	76	151
Solid lubricants	235	120

Industrial investments in the drilling of active wells in Sanok, Krosno, and Gorlice produced 4,189 meters of bore holes or 117 percent of the plan.

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In April, employment reached a figure of 13,864 workers.

Imports constituted only 3 percent of the total consumption of petroleum products.

Within the period of the Six-Year Plan, the Central Office of Petroleum Products intends to centralize the large shipments of foreign petroleum through the Port of Szczecin. The fueling of Polish ships with oil will be handled in domestic ports. At present there are four fueling stations for motor cutters. This network of stations must be expanded to be adequate for the needs of the fishing fleets.

The distribution machinery for petroleum products is very important not only to motor traffic but also to agricultural machine centers. River transportation should be utilized for the distribution of petroleum products throughout the country since inexpensive rather than rapid transportation is required. The river fleet is not adequate, therefore an increase in the number of tankers is very important.

#### Power Industry

About 90 percent of electric power in Poland is produced by thermoelectric plants and only 10 percent by hydroelectric plants. This is due mainly to topography, since Poland is a country of low-lands with the mountains concentrated on the southern boundary far from any large bodies of water.

In April 1949, the Central Power Administration (Cz) took over the administration of the larger local power plants (over 500 kilowatt-hours). As a result the normal seasonal decline in power production is not visible, since April figures include the production of the newly acquired plants. In analyzing the table below it should be remembered that the production of the first 3 months is not strictly comparable to the April production.

#### Electric Power Production in Plants Subject to CZE

1949	Plan (in 1,000 kWh)	Actual	Plan (in %)
Jan	371,719	371,644	100
Feb	342,336	345,375	100
Mar	365,103	371,788	102
Apr	371,930	372,021 (estimated data)	100

\*Estimated data

At a national power conference, it was resolved to intensify shop competition, reduce repairs to machines and equipment, reduce coal consumption, and reduce waste of power. The resulting savings should amount to 1,874 million zlotys in 1949.

Electrification of the country continues. Of the 40,600 rural communities in Poland, 10,000, or 25 percent, were electrified by the end of 1948. By the end of the 6-year period, 11,000 additional villages are to be electrified, that is, 30 percent of the rural communities will have been electrified by that time. Even now some of the powiats are 85 to 100 percent electrified.

Gas production, included in the power industry, comes from three sources: the municipal gasworks, coke ovens, and natural gas wells. At the end of hostilities, Poland took over 261 gasworks, mostly damaged; and by the end of 1948, 190 of these were activated. Before the war, 103 gasworks produced about 150

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million cubic meters of gas. Last year, the gasworks supplied about 290 million cubic meters; it is expected that the production this year will reach 348 million cubic meters.

The power industry has 21 coke plants (there were 9 before the war) which supplied more than 300 million cubic meters of coke-oven gas last year. The surplus coke-oven gas is conducted through a network of gas pipes, 550 kilometers long, directly to large consumers or is used to supply the cities in the vicinity of the network.

Before the war, the natural gas wells supplied about 460 million cubic meters of gas. At present, the network of gas mains comprises about 900 kilometers, mostly in the southern section of the country. Natural gas is used chiefly by the metallurgical, metal, and ceramic industries, and to some extent by the cities. The proposed consolidation of the natural gas network with the coke-oven gas network will help to establish a basis for the expansion of the gas network in the southern area of the country. It will also supply cheap power for local industry and for residential property.

The Ministry of Heavy Industry was created by an Order of the Council of Ministers on 22 April 1949. The Ministry has jurisdiction over the metallurgical, metals, and electrotechnical industries, and supervision over pressure boilers, cranes, and tanks. It also has jurisdiction over the sale and consumption of old iron, cast-iron fragments, old cast iron, and scrap metal.

Within the above-named branches of industry, the ministry has jurisdiction over production planning and investment policy. It has supervision over technical equipment, directs the activities of state and cooperative enterprises, and others under state control.

#### Metallurgical Industry

The metallurgical industry achieved the production plan for April as shown in the table below (estimated data):

Percent of Plan Achieved

<u>Product</u>	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>
Coke	110	111
Pig iron	103	109
Raw steel	105	105
Rolled products	103	101
Forged and pressed products	109	111

It must be emphasized that not only was the plan achieved but also a steady increase in production was noted. In April of this year, production of pig iron increased 12 percent over the production for the corresponding period of 1948; production of steel, 11 percent; and production of rolled products, 9 percent.

A new blast furnace with a daily output of 300 tons was put in operation at the Florian foundry.

As of 1 April 1949, total employment numbered 144,094 persons of which 131,507 were employed in direct production -- 116,575 wage earners and 14,932 salaried workers.

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Production of the Associated Enterprises of the Nonferrous Metals, showing the percent of plan achieved, is given below:

	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>
Zinc	111	109
Elemental sulfur	108	105
Lead	102	108
Sulfuric acid	113	114

Metals Industry

The metals industry exceeded the production plan for April in almost all branches of production as shown below.

Production of Important Products of the Central Board, Metals Industry Enterprises (estimated data)

<u>Product</u>		<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>Apr 49 Plan in %</u>
Metal and woodworking				
machine tools, total	units	386	356	87
RR passenger cars	"	18	20	118
Coal cars	"	824	1,499	105
Motorcycles	"	314	471	150
Farm machines	"	32,253	41,902	144
Cables	"	638	636	105
Textile machines	tons	420	369	91
Looms	units	42	43	100
Kickhoff heads	"	5	6	75

The increase in the production of farm machines is especially important since permanent transformation of the social and economic structure of the Polish villages and the mechanization of the farm is possible only with increased production of farm machinery.

Value of Production for April According to Branches of Industry  
(1,000 zlotys in 1937 prices)

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Plan</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Machine tools	5,481.8	5,286.5	96.4
Implements	4,585.5	5,192.7	113.2
Abrasives	859.7	1,189.7	138.3
Precision and optical instruments	1,915.1	2,103.4	109.8
Farm, flour-mill machinery	4,239.2	4,723.1	111.4
RR rolling stock, equipment	28,389.3	31,039.0	109.3
Automotive	8,609.1	9,456.8	109.8
Machines	6,183.9	7,290.3	117.9
Castings	9,792.9	11,185.6	113.5
Sheet-metal products	6,513.1	6,869.8	105.5
Wire and wrought metal products	10,894.5	12,204.0	112.0
Steel furniture	1,272.1	1,366.4	107.4
Boilers	7,856.9	8,906.0	113.3
Textiles	2,581.9	3,016.1	116.8
Miscellaneous	3,336.7	3,815.0	114.3

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This industry achieved the production plan for April 105 percent with a total production of 5,019 tons.

<u>Branch of Industry</u>		<u>Plan</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Plan in %</u>
Machines	tons	689	766	111
Equipment	"	473	551	116
Cables and chemicals	"	3,454	3,555	103
Telecommunications	"	158	147	93

The development of the industry can best be pictured by comparing the current April production with the production for the corresponding period of 1948.

<u>Branch</u>		<u>Apr 48</u>	<u>49 Increase in %</u>
Machines	tons	487	65.5
Equipment	"	352	65.8
Cables and chemicals	"	2,962	85.3

Production figures of the most important items follow:

Production of Electrotechnical Industry  
(estimated data)

<u>Item</u>		<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>Apr 49 Plan in %</u>
Rotary machine	units	3,262	3,726	114
Transformers	"	328	550	168
Electric meters and clocks	"	15,830	16,381	103
Batteries and cells	tons	98	60	107
Electric light bulbs	1,000 units	2,423	2,249	109
Telephone instruments	"	3,835	2,015	40
Radio receivers	"	8,360	3,800	190

Chemical Industry

The production plan of the industry for April was successfully achieved as shown below.

Production of Important Items of the Central Administration, Chemical Industry  
(estimated data in tons)

<u>Items</u>	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>% of Plan Achieved Apr 49</u>
Hydrochloric acid, adjusted to 100% acid	461	575	150
Raw soda	17,028	17,879	108
Soda ash	10,461	10,864	122
Caustic soda	4,380	4,625	102
Carbide	12,902	11,258	94
Calcium cyanamide	14,100	12,770	102
Superphosphate	33,291	25,884	101
Crude tar	2,337	2,324	116

Special notice should be taken of the continued increase in the production of fertilizers so necessary to farm production.

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With the continued increase in production, the Central Sales Office of the Chemical Industry will be reorganized to secure a more efficient distribution of bulk chemicals and to decrease handling costs.

The Council of Ministers by its order of 4 April 1949, created the Ministry of Light Industry. The following industries will be under its jurisdiction: textile, clothing, leather, wood, match, paper, mineral, and printing. The Ministry of Light Industry will also be in charge of the state-owned local industries, waste materials, and industrial arts.

The economic planning and investment policy of these industries will also be controlled by this ministry. It will have supervision over the technical equipment, direct the activities of the state, cooperative, and other enterprises under state management.

#### Textile Industry

The percent of plan achieved by each branch of the industry is as follows: cotton 100.2, wool 100.0, bast fiber 109.3, silk fancy goods 103.3, knitwear 106.9, synthetics 103.9, textiles and other products for industrial use 106.5, and flax and hemp retting plants 103.2.

The over-all production plan of the textile industry for April 1949 was achieved 102.2 percent, the value of production in 1937 prices was 205,536,000 zlotys. Emphasis was placed on improvement of quality.

The table below shows the achievement of the plan by individual branches.

Production of Important Items of the Textile Industry  
(estimated data)

<u>Industry and Product</u>		<u>Volume of Production</u>		<u>Apr 49 Plan in %</u>
		<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	
<b>Cotton</b>				
Fine spun yarn	tons	390	338	101
Scrap yarn	"	931	811	100
Fabrics	1,000 m	32,583	32,219	100
<b>Wool</b>				
Carded yarn	tons		2,165	99
Worsted yarn	"	924	850	107
Fabrics	1,000 m	4,104	3,833	101
<b>Bast Fiber Yarns</b>				
Linen fabric	1,000 m	3,182	3,059	104
Jute canvas	"	332	207	126
<b>Synthetic Yarns</b>				
Staple yarn	tons	987	1,014	104
"Artex" yarn	"	38	42	101

In April, employment was increased by 1,917 and as of 30 April 1949 the workers numbered 310,286, of which 282,499 were wage earners and 27,787 were salaried. Due to forced mergers, the number of enterprises decreased by ten and now total 209.

No great changes were noted in supply. The demand for wool was filled 100 percent and the demand for worsted wool was greatly exceeded. There was a shortage of long-staple cotton and machine knitting needles.

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Clothing Industry

The percent of plan achieved in April is shown as follows: state ready-to-wear industry 107.4, private ready-to-wear industry 66.6, button industry 118.0, and hat manufacturing industry 97.6.

The over-all production was completed 100.6 percent. The value of planned production in 1937 prices was 22,311,000 zlotys, the value of actual production achieved was 22,443,000 zlotys. As compared to March, the achievement of the plan increased 2.6 percent. There was no change in the number of active enterprises or in the number of machines. As of the end of April, the number employed was 42,927, of which 38,842 were wage earners and 4,085 salaried personnel, a decrease of 317.

Supply in general was efficiently handled except in the button industry where the shortage of steel strips for manufacture of buttons was felt.

Leather Industry

The percent of plan achieved by the individual branches of the industry was as follows: tanning 109.8, shoe 107.1, leather products 86.0, fur 121.0, leather glove 126.5, and auxiliary products 121.8.

The over-all production plan of the leather industry for April was achieved 106.9 percent; the value of production in 1937 prices was 25,049,000 zlotys. The table below shows the production of the industry by individual branches.

Production of Important Products of the Leather Industry  
(estimated data)

Production		Volume	Mar 49	Apr 49	Apr 49 Plan in %
Tannery					
Total in terms of rawhides	tons		3,801.7	3,980.7	116.4
Leather					
Sole	tons		1,060.8	1,081.4	110.8
Russian	"		74.1	75.6	141.6
For industrial use	"		22.2	24.0	141.3
White	"		21.1	26.5	131.6
For uppers	1,000 sq m		119.1	118.8	86.6
Footwear					
Total	1,000 pr		926.5	839.4	103.7
Leather shoes	"		606.6	586.6	109.9
Industrial articles	tons		44.4	38.9	117.0
Chemicals and tannins	"		73.5	79.9	126.8

The collection of raw hides in April reached 1,917 tons, or 110 percent of the plan. The collection of cattle and horse hides came up to expectation and the collection of calf skins exceeded the anticipated seasonal increase.

The collection of pig skins increased 13 percent over March and achieved the plan 116 percent (399 tons).

In April, 4,137 tons (raw weight) of hides were supplied to the tanneries including pig skins but excluding fur pelts. The only shortage felt was in the supply of belting leather.

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Except for ground chalk and dyes for covering blemishes, the plan of supply in chemicals was achieved 100 percent. In April, 1,241 tons of raw hides were imported. During the same period, 38,850 lamb skins, 18,690 kilograms in weight, arrived from Bulgaria for dressing and 20,000 calf skins were exported.

Employment was increased by 503 persons over the previous month reaching 20,793 workers, of which 18,521 were wage earners and 2,272 salaried personnel. There was no change in the number of active enterprises (96).

#### Wood Industry

The industry subject to CZPD achieved the production plan for April 126 percent. The value of production in 1937 prices was 13,900,000 zlotys. Thus, it remained on the same level as the previous month.

Value of Production, Central Administration of Wood  
Industry According to Associations  
(1,000 zlotys in 1937 prices)

<u>Association</u>	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>
Dolny Slask	2,379	2,111
Krakow-Slask	1,730	1,661
Bentwood Furniture	1,110	1,044
Western	2,747	2,014
Central	1,271	1,301
Pomorze	2,763	3,582
Mazury	1,818	1,481
Zamosc	214	232
Bydgoszcz	561	483

#### Production of Important Items of the State Wood Industry, In April 1949

		<u>Production</u>	<u>Apr Plan in %</u>
Sawmill products	cu m	19,909	109
Soft boards	" "	12,697	
Hard boards	" "	4,892	
Other sawed varieties	" "	2,320	
Boxes	units	359,685	160
Thick walled	"	21,019	
Thin walled	"	338,666	
Bentwood furniture	"	76,115 [sic]	108
Chairs	"	63,207	
Arm chairs	"	3,433	
Other items	"	9,485	
Barrels	"	33,762	168
For liquids	"	4,129	
For solids	"	29,633	
Veneers and wood panels	cu m	2,560	119

Production of barrels increased by 15,725 over last month and production of bentwood furniture and wood panels also exceeded the plan.

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With 40 percent of the total of national production, the CZPD is the most important producer of finished wood products. The participation of the remaining branches of the industry in the production of the finished wood products is as follows: Ministry of Forests, 12 percent; Department of Local Industry, 10 percent; production subject to other state authorities, 3 percent; and cooperative and private enterprise 35 percent.

The basic production of the enterprises subject to the CZPD is various types of the furniture (45 percent of total production), veneers, and wood work (about 25 percent).

In the first quarter, the sales of the Central Sales Office of the Wood Products Industry (CHPD) reached 1,277,445,000 zlotys. The plan was exceeded by the widest margin in the Lublin and Krakow branches. Forty percent of the installment purchases of furniture were made by wage earners.

Sales for 1949 as estimated in the CHPD plan, will reach 8 billion zlotys or three times as much as the plan for 1948. Thirty-two new outlets will be added to the sales network this year.

#### Paper Industry

The achievements of the paper industry are shown below:

#### Production of Paper Industry (estimated data in tons)

	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>Apr 49 Plan in %</u>
Wood pulp	10,558	9,782	111
Cellulose	10,494	10,285	117
Paper	23,797	21,556	118
Cardboard	3,482	3,065	100

No special difficulties were encountered in supplying the paper industry with raw materials except in the manufacture of office supplies which suffered from a shortage of certain imported materials indispensable to the manufacture of good quality pencils and chemicals used in the manufacture of ink.

The distribution network of the Central Sales Office of the Paper Industry was reorganized and new outlets, both retail and wholesale, were opened throughout the country.

#### Building-Materials Industry

The value of April 1949 production in 1937 prices was 26,500,000 zlotys. The production plan was achieved 113 percent.

#### Production of Important Products of the Building-Materials Industry

		<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>Apr 49 Plan in %</u>
Quick lime	tons	54,688	66,381	105
Portland cement	"	191,753	176,487	123
Window glass	1,000 sq m	980	744	106
Bricks	1,000 units	11,435	20,262	94
Tar roofing	1,000 sq m	2,319	2,301	119

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Failure to achieve the plan was due to unfavorable weather conditions which delayed the opening of seasonal enterprises.

In April, the number of active enterprises in Central Poland and in the Re-gained Territories numbered 439, or two more than in the previous month. The number of workers employed in the building-materials industry, as of 1 May 1949, was 68,134 as compared to 63,446 in the previous month. Exports of cement reached 46,740 tons or 594 tons more than in March. The biggest importers of our cement were: Holland 19,644 tons, USSR 12,008 tons, Brazil 6,000 tons, and South Africa (including Rhodesia) 9,088 tons.

The opening of plants near sources of raw material in the western territories greatly increased Poland's potential in the production of building materials. These plants exceeded prewar production in the manufacture of many bulk commodities, such as cement, lime, roofing, and glass.

#### Fermentation Industry

This industry exceeded the production plan in April in the more important products. The production of beer increased 23,000 hecaliters over the previous month.

#### Production of Important Products of the Fermentation Industry (estimated data)

		<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>	<u>Apr 49 Plan in %</u>
Beer	hl	174,000	197,000	102
Wine	"	5,976	4,971	99
Vinegar	"	10,520	7,862	113
Malt	tons	5,019	4,783	98
Yeast (pressed)	"	641	723	125

This year, export of malt amounted to about 10,000 tons. The chief importers were, Sweden, Switzerland, Belgium, and Lebanon.

Before the war, the yearly per capita consumption of fruit wines was 0.08 liters; at present it is 0.4 liters. This is a great step forward although we are still far from reaching the level of consumption of the western European countries where the grape wine industry is an important branch of production for mass consumption. The development of wineries in Poland is desirable both to limit the consumption of alcohol and to develop cultivation of vineyards. Production is increasing despite numerous difficulties such as inadequate supply of satisfactory material, inferior cultivation, lack of experts in the field, and a shortage of technical equipment.

#### Canning Industry

The monthly production plan was achieved 159 percent. The meat division achieved the plan 162 percent, the fruit and vegetable division 132 percent, and the refrigeration division 135 percent.

#### Production of Important Items of the State Canning Industry

		<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>
Meat Division			
Fresh fats	tons	213	576
Rendered fats	"	220	483
Smoked products	"	355	903

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(Continued)		<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>
<b>Meat Division</b>			
Bacon	tons	691	1,315
Canned meat	"	285	494
Canned hams	"	60	103
<b>Fruit and Vegetables</b>			
Marmalade and jellies	"	765	559
Juices	"	133	113

The marked increase shown in production of the meat branch in the above table, is due not only to the actual increase of production but also to the fact that eight large plants producing meat products were embraced by the April plan and the production figures are included in the above table.

The GZPK data for 1949 does not include the production of all the plants subject to it as the plants were taken over from the Central Meat Board in January and were not included in the production plans of the canning industry.

#### Fats Industry

In general this industry exceeded the production plans of the various products.

Production of oil from seeds amounted to 7,361 tons exceeding the plan by 7 percent.

#### Production of Important Products of State Fats Industry (estimated data in tons)

	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>
Raw oil	3,962	3,452
Refined oil	2,584	2,542
Margarine	1,714	1,598
Laundry soap	2,562	3,100

The greatest achievement is shown in the production of refined oil, 133 percent of the plan.

Among the basic raw materials of the fats industry are bones. Through modern processing methods, many derivative products are secured, such as, bone fat (used in making soap and stearin) and bone glue. In the 4 months of the current year, 338 tons of bone glue were produced, or 42 percent of the yearly plan. Last year, 500 tons of pure high-grade fat was secured from the 10,000 tons of bones collected.

#### Other Industries

1. The Tobacco Monopoly produced a total of 1,663,235,000 cigarettes in April, exceeding the plan by 21 percent. The production of tobacco was increased to 78,859 kilograms or 107 percent of the plan.

This year, tobacco crop contracts embraced 14,801 hectares exceeding the plan by 9 percent. About 7,056 hectares of the crop are designated for the production of light cigarette tobacco. The largest areas put under contract were 5,936 hectares in the Lublin Wojewodstwo, 2,936 hectares in Krakow, and

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2,856 hectares in Kielce. The planters received a large amount of fertilizer through the Samopomoc Chlopska and credits for the erection of model drying sheds. Attention was given to the training of experts in the field. Courses were organized in January of this year with several hundred persons attending.

The 1949 plan estimates the production at 16,625 million cigarettes which is a great increase over the planned production of last year, which was 13,030 million.

2. The Alcohol Industry exceeded the plan in all branches except in the production of whiskey which is attributed to the reduced demand as a result of the continued temperance campaign. Production of pure whiskey amounted to 3,130,000 liters or 94 percent of the plan. Production of purified alcohol used in medicine and chemistry was 117 percent of the plan, supplying the market with 5,854,000 liters. Production of raw alcohol achieved the plan 101 percent with a production of 2,721,000 liters. Production of denatured alcohol amounted to 651,000 liters or 107 percent of the plan.

3. The Potato Processing Industry Association achieved the plan 152 percent with a production of 2,781 tons of potato products.

4. The Confectionery Industry Association exceeded the production plan for April. It included 2,149 tons of candy and chocolate, 213 tons more than was produced in the previous month.

5. The Association for the Manufacture of Coffee and Food Substitutes achieved the plan 122 percent. The volume of production reached 2,621 tons.

The increasing demand for chicory on the domestic market and the possibility of export were responsible for increasing the area sown to 7,320 hectares or 85 percent more than the previous year.

#### Salt-Water Fisheries

The fish catch in April amounted to 6,888 tons, slightly lower than that of March, which was 7,095 tons.

#### Baltic Fish Catch (in tons)

	<u>Mar 49</u>	<u>Apr 49</u>
Hake	6,595	6,035
Roach	181	219
Pike perch	59	74
Salmon	22	12
Flounders	24	42
Herring	35	208
Sprats	56	132
Bream	55	73
Other	68	93
Total	7,095	6,888

Storms and high seas in the Baltic during the first 10 days of April resulted in smaller catches of hake which is the mainstay of our fisheries. The spawning season also had a detrimental effect on the catch. However, after a temporary decrease, the hake catch on the whole improved.

Weather conditions were unfavorable for salmon fishing and the results were unsatisfactory.

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An increase in the hauls of herring, roach, and sprats was noted. The sprat catch was best in the area of Darlowo-Kolobrzeg.

Despite the reduced supply of hake, the market demands for salt-water fish were completely satisfied especially as the supply of fresh water fish increased.

In April, the Central Fish Board exported fish to the following countries: Czechoslovakia, 159.2 tons of hake, pike perch, fresh and frozen tench, preserved sprats, and frozen salmon; Israel, 153 tons of preserved sprats and mackerel; Great Britain, 20.2 tons of frozen salmon; Germany, 1,285.2 tons of fresh hake. Private industry also exported 168.3 tons of fresh hake and preserved sprats to Germany.

In April, the Central Fish Board imported 5,843.7 tons of fish, for the most part salted herring, from Holland, Norway, Sweden, and England.

By an order of the Minister of Navigation, issued in cooperation with the Minister of the Treasury and the president of PKPG and published in the Monitor Poleski on 21 April 1949 "Arka," the Association of Deep Sea Fisheries and Foreign Trade was socialized and will operate as "Arka," the Cutter Fisheries Enterprise.

The "Dalmor" was also socialized and will operate as the "Dalmor" Deep Sea Fisheries State Enterprise. Both of these enterprises had been limited companies with share capital owned by the state and cooperatives.

#### Maritime Activities

In April, the turnover of the Gdynia-Gdansk port group was somewhat smaller than the average of the first 3 months of the current year. The total transshipments of freight amounted to 991,400 tons, of which 859,400 tons was export. Solid fuel - coal, coke, and bunker coal - was the largest export item, 713,000 tons; in imports, ore took first place, 33,000 tons.

In April 1949, the steadily increasing turnover in the port of Szczecin reached 398,900 tons, of which 354,900 tons was export. Important items of export were; coal 328,600 tons, grain and legumes 19,100 tons, and wood and wood products 468,600 tons.

Imports handled through Szczecin in April amounted to 43,900 tons. The chief items were; building materials 13,400 tons, processed chemicals 4,000 tons, machines 482 tons.

In April, the small ports handled about 40,000 tons of coal, of which Ustka handled 19,000 tons, Kolobrzeg 13,500 tons, and Darlowo about 7,000 tons.

The continued increase in the tonnage of the Polish Merchant Fleet facilitates the opening of additional scheduled runs. At the end of April service was opened between Gdynia and the ports of Finland. This run will be serviced alternately by the SS Slask of the Zeluga Polska line, which has a displacement of 1,402 gross registered tons, and by a ship of the Anfartyga firm in Helsinki.

Construction of wharves and regulation work continues in Szczecin. The Motecki Wharf on which the Paged has its loading platform is 50 percent complete. The underwater obstructions still remaining are being removed in the area of the Dunczyca Wharf and the Dabicki Canal. Two warehouses which were under construction on the Arsenal and Dunczyca wharves have been completed. Repair work on the vehicular road to Eva, and on the railroad tracks along the Przemyslawy Canal, is being completed. The construction of a cradle for shunting freight cars of the railroad ferry on the Dabicki Canal was completed.

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On 24 April, the fourth coal and ore carrier, the First of May, was launched in the Gdansk shipyards.

As provided for in the trade agreement between Poland and Argentina, five Argentinian merchant ships have been assigned to a permanent run between Buenos Aires and Gdynia. This run was previously serviced by Polish ships only.

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